

# AUTOGEOGRAPHY

DOWNTOWN BRANCH  
WHITNEY MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART  
55 WATER STREET  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10041  
DECEMBER 11–JANUARY 7, 1976

# SCHEDULE FOR FILMS, PERFORMANCES AND VIDEOTAPES

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1975

- 5:00 ELEANOR ANTIN  
Representational Painting 1973  
B/W video, 38 minutes  
Courtesy of M. L. D'Arc Gallery
- 5:45 MARTHA ROSLER  
Semiology of the Kitchen 1974  
B/W video, 8 minutes  
Lent by the artist
- 6:00 MARTHA WILSON  
De-formation  
Performance

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

- 12:00 WILLIAM WEGMAN  
Selected Works, Reel Four 1972  
B/W video, 20 minutes  
Distributed by Castelli-Sonnabend  
Tapes and Films
- 12:30 STANTON KAYE  
Brandy in the Wilderness 1969  
16 mm film, 95 minutes  
Courtesy of Brandon French
- 2:00 ADELE SHAULES  
I Was Visiting My Sisters Who Are  
Living in A Warm and Friendly  
Wouldn't Hurt a Fly Fascist  
Environment 1975  
B/W video, 60 minutes  
Lent by the artist

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 15

- 12:00 JENNIFER KOTTER  
Love Letter 1975  
B/W video, 30 minutes  
Lent by the artist
- 12:30 CAROLEE SCHNEEMANN  
Plumb Line 1969-71  
16 mm film, 15 minutes  
Lent by the artist
- 1:00 PETER CAMPUS  
Set of Co-Incidence 1974  
Color video, 13 minutes  
Distributed by Castelli-Sonnabend  
Tapes and Films
- 1:15 LYNDY BENGLIS  
Now 1973  
Color video, 12½ minutes  
Distributed by Castelli-Sonnabend  
Tapes and Films
- 1:30 NANCY HOLT  
Underscan 1974  
B/W video, 8 minutes  
Distributed by Castelli-Sonnabend  
Tapes and Films
- 1:45 VITO ACCONCI  
Command Performance 1973  
B/W video, 50 minutes  
Distributed by Castelli-Sonnabend  
Tapes and Films

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

- 12:00 WILLIAM WEGMAN  
Selected Works, Reel Four 1972  
B/W video, 20 minutes  
Distributed by Castelli-Sonnabend  
Tapes and Films
- 12:30 LUCAS SAMARAS  
Self 1969  
16 mm film, 28 minutes  
Courtesy of Pace Gallery
- 1:00 JOSEPH BEUYS  
I Like America and America Likes Me  
1974  
B/W video, 30 minutes  
Distributed by Rene Block Gallery, Ltd.
- 1:30 ELEANOR ANTIN  
Representational Painting 1973  
B/W video, 38 minutes  
Courtesy of M.L. D'Arc Gallery

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17

- 12:15 MARTHA ROSLER  
Semiology of the Kitchen 1974  
B/W video, 8 minutes  
Lent by the artist
- 12:30 YVONNE RAINER  
Lives of Performers 1972  
16 mm film, 90 minutes  
Distributed by Castelli-Sonnabend  
Tapes and Films
- 2:00 DEREK DEWEES and DAVID SCHILPP  
Life With the Stars 1975  
16 mm color film, 8 minutes  
Lent by the artists

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18

- 12:30 HOLLIS FRAMPTON  
Nostalgia 1971  
16 mm film, 36 minutes  
Distributed by Filmmaker's Cooperative

- 1:15 CAROLEE SCHNEEMANN  
Kitch's Last Meal 1975  
Two super 8 mm films projected  
simultaneously; 25 minutes  
Lent by the artist
- 1:45 FRANK MOURIS  
Frank Film 1972  
16 mm film, 9 minutes  
Distributed by Pyramid Films,  
Santa Monica

- 2:00 ADELE SHAULES  
I Was Visiting My Sisters Who Are  
Living In A Warm and Friendly  
Wouldn't Hurt a Fly Fascist  
Environment 1975  
B/W video, 60 minutes  
Lent by the artist

- 12:00 PETER CAMPUS  
Set of Co-Incidence 1974  
Color video, 13 minutes  
Distributed by Castelli-Sonnabend  
Tapes and Films

- 12:15 LYNDY BENGLIS  
Now 1973  
Color video, 12½ minutes  
Distributed by Castelli-Sonnabend  
Tapes and Films

- 12:30 STANTON KAYE  
Brandy in the Wilderness 1969  
16 mm film, 95 minutes  
Courtesy of Brandon French

- 2:00 VITO ACCONCI  
Command Performance 1973  
B/W video, 50 minutes  
Distributed by Castelli-Sonnabend  
Tapes and Films

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 22

- 12:00 ALLAN KAPROW  
Rate of Exchange 1974  
B/W video, 16 minutes  
Courtesy of M.L. D'Arc Gallery
- 12:30 FRANK MOURIS  
Frank Film 1972  
16 mm film, 9 minutes  
Distributed by Pyramid Films,  
Santa Monica
- 12:45 JOSEPH BEUYS  
I Like America and America Likes Me  
1974  
B/W video, 30 minutes  
Distributed by Rene Block Gallery, Ltd.
- 12:30 DEREK DEWEES and DAVID SCHILPP  
Life With the Stars 1975  
16 mm film, 8 minutes  
Lent by the artists

## 12:45 LAURIE ANDERSON

Dearreader 1975  
Super 8 mm film, 45 minutes  
Lent by the artist

## 1:30 ADELE SHAULES

I Was Visiting My Sisters Who Are  
Living In A Warm and Friendly  
Wouldn't Hurt a Fly Fascist  
Environment 1975  
B/W video, 60 minutes  
Lent by the artist

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

- 12:30 CAROLEE SCHNEEMANN  
Kitch's Last Meal 1975  
Two super 8 mm films projected  
simultaneously, 25 minutes  
Lent by the artist

- 1:00 JENNIFER KOTTER  
Love Letter 1975  
B/W video, 30 minutes  
Lent by the artist

- 1:30 MARTHA ROSLER  
Semiology of the Kitchen 1974  
B/W video, 8 minutes  
Lent by the artist

The museum will be closed:  
Thursday, December 25  
Friday, December 26  
Thursday, January 1  
Friday, January 2

A selection of tapes will be shown:  
Monday, December 29  
Tuesday, December 30  
Wednesday, December 31

## MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 1976

- 12:30 CAROLEE SCHNEEMANN  
Plumb Line 1969-71  
16 mm film, 15 minutes  
Lent by the artist

- 12:45 JOAN JONAS  
Glass Puzzle 1974  
B/W video, 26 minutes  
Distributed by Castelli-Sonnabend  
Tapes and Films

- 1:15 BRUCE NAUMAN  
Flesh to Black to White to Flesh 1968  
B/W video, 60 minutes  
Distributed by Castelli-Sonnabend  
Tapes and Films

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 6

- 12:15 LAURIE ANDERSON  
Dearreader 1975  
Super 8 mm film, 45 minutes  
Lent by the artist

- 1:00 ELEANOR ANTIN  
Representational Painting 1973  
B/W video, 38 minutes  
Courtesy of M.L. D'Arc Gallery

- 1:45 ALLAN KAPROW  
Rate of Exchange 1974  
B/W video, 16 minutes  
Courtesy of M.L. D'Arc Gallery

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7

- 12:00 JOAN JONAS  
Glass Puzzle 1974  
B/W video, 26 minutes  
Distributed by Castelli-Sonnabend  
Tapes and Films

- 12:30 LAURIE ANDERSON  
For Instances Footnote  
Performance

- 1:45 BRUCE NAUMAN  
Flesh to Black to White to Flesh 1968  
B/W video, 60 minutes  
Distributed by Castelli-Sonnabend  
Tapes and Films

# AUTOGEOGRAPHY

AUTOGEOGRAPHY is an exhibition concerned with artists' explorations of themselves—their bodies, memories, fantasies, social consciousnesses. This art is revealed to the viewer through the recording and, often, the re-creation of personal experiences, events, or visions. Documentation of these events becomes their only means of preservation.

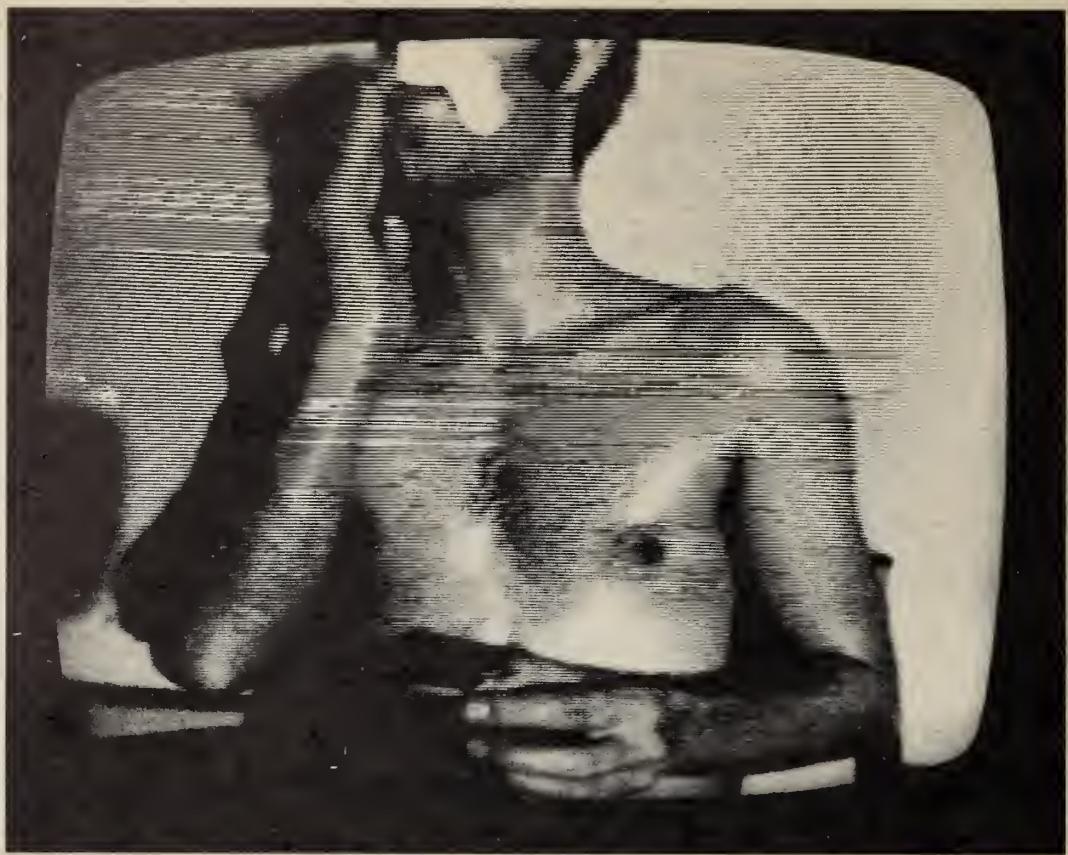
AUTOGEOGRAPHY encompasses and elaborates upon two traditional art forms: autobiography and self-portraiture. Autobiography is the recording of experience through memory. Works included within the concept of AUTOGEOGRAPHY often contain autobiographical elements in a hybrid of verbal and visual media. Self-portraiture captures the artist at a single moment, often surrounded by articles of personal significance. Many artists have depicted themselves as important person-

alities—Rembrandt painted himself as Paul, Caravaggio represented himself as Goliath—or as romantic or tragic heroes exemplified by Courbet's *Wounded Man* in which he portrayed himself as tortured creator. The image of romantic hero persists in contemporary self-portraiture, extended by the use of film, videotape, and photography.

Issues raised in twentieth-century are significant to AUTOGEOGRAPHY: many of the works in this exhibition amplify concepts developed in Dada, Happenings, and process art. Characteristic of Dada was an anti-art, anti-masterpiece playfulness that was manifested in objects and group collaborations incorporating such forms as music, performance, and poetry. Dada objects modified the value of a marketable art commodity because of their association with the tradition of painting and sculpture. "Readymades" by Marcel Duchamp were



Joan Jonas, Glass Puzzle, 1974



Bruce Nauman, *Flesh to Black to White to Flesh*, 1968

objects such as a bottle rack or a urinal removed from their functional context and placed within an art milieu. Happenings, a phenomenon of the 1950s incorporating performance and audience collaborations, usually occurred outside museums. They often involved the transformation of a specific place and an immediate physical and emotional engagement through the participation of an audience. Because Happenings were unique events, documentation was the only method for preserving them. Documentation gave rise to questions of the nature of the artwork—was the residual evidence in a photograph or on film actually the artwork? Some artists thus focused on the process necessary to make an object. Crucial to these artists was the evidence of fabrication and the activity of the artist as catalyst to that process.

The identity of the artist is a primary concern to the idea of AUTOGEOGRAPHY.

Serving in various capacities as creator, subject, interpreter, and often the fabricator of the work, the artist's presence is pervasive. Some artists treat their bodies or lives as art substances, handling them as though they were traditional art making materials. These artists may directly manipulate their physiognomy to cause immediate transformation: distorting their faces, using their bodies as works of art. In other cases, the time lags and dissolves of video technology serve as transformation devices. Various artists in this exhibition isolate and reenact a personal experience in order to render it at a distance which enables them to serve as both observer and participant in the work. Reenactment may take the form of theatrical performance, diary, or literary narrative on videotape or film, some artists focus on the relationships and contradictions of words and their images; others concentrate on the equally contradictory realm bridging fantasy and reality.

# WORKS OF ART

All dimensions are in inches

Height precedes width precedes depth

VITO ACCONCI

Round Trip (A Space to Fall Back On)

1975

Mixed media:  
constructions and audiotape  
Lent by the artist

JON BOROFSKY

2,189,449 1974

Acrylic, magic marker and  
charcoal on canvas, 24 x 20  
Courtesy of Paula Cooper Gallery

J.B. COBB

No Step 1973

Mixed media: sculpture with  
projected photography, 48 x 64 x 144  
Lent by the artist

FRED LONIDIER

Autobiography/History:

A Question of Boundary 1973

Mixed media: photographs, clippings  
and documents; fifteen 36 x 24 panels  
Lent by the artist

DUANE MICHALS

Take One and See Mt. Fujiyama 1975

Fifteen 8 x 10 black-and-white  
photographs

Courtesy of Light Gallery

Duane Michals

Photographed by Stefan Mihal 1975

Black-and-white photograph; 14½ x 12  
Courtesy of Light Gallery

ROBERT MORRIS

I-Box 1962

Mixed media; 19 x 12, 3/4 x 1 3/8  
Collection of Mr. And Mrs. Leo Castelli

PATRICIA PATTERSON

Nan, Coleen, Patricia: An Adventure

1975

Twenty-four page looseleaf book;  
watercolor, colored pencil and ink  
on paper; 9 x 11  
Lent by the artist

LUCAS SAMARAS

Autopolaroid 1971

Polaroid Land Film, 21¼ x 18½  
Courtesy of Pace Gallery

Autopolaroid 1971

Polaroid Land Film, 21¼ x 16½

Courtesy of Pace Gallery

Photo-Transformation 12/16/73

SX 70 Polaroid Land Film

Courtesy of Pace Gallery

Photo-Transformation 12/19/73

SX 70 Polaroid Land Film

Courtesy of Pace Gallery

ALLAN SEKULA

Aerospace Folktales #3 1974

Bound Xerograph book, 8½ x 11;  
71-minute cassette recording

Lent by the artist

PHILIP STEINMETZ

One Saturday in El Segundo 1974

Four 8 x 10 black-and-white  
photographs

Lent by the artist

ALAN SONFIST

Autobiography of the Hemlock Forest

Seven black-and-white photographs,  
10 x 56

Lent by the artist



Lynda Benglis, Now, 1973



# ARTISTS' BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

## VITO ACCONCI

Born: Bronx, New York, 1940  
Resides: New York City

## LAURIE ANDERSON

Born: Chicago, 1946  
Resides: New York City

## ELEANOR ANTIN

Born: New York City, 1935  
Resides: Solana Beach, California

## LYNDA BENGLIS

Born: Lake Charles, Louisiana, 1941  
Resides: Venice, California, and New York City

## JOSEPH BEUYS

Born: Kleve, Germany, 1921.  
Resides: Dusseldorf, Germany

## JON BOROFSKY

Born: Boston, Massachusetts, 1942  
Resides: New York City

## PETER CAMPUS

Born: New York City, 1937  
Resides: New York City

## J.B. COBB

Born: Los Angeles, 1940  
Resides: New York City

## DEREK DEWEES

Born: Jacksonville, North Carolina, 1952  
Resides: El Cajon, California

## HOLLIS FRAMPTON

Born: Wooster, Ohio, 1936.  
Resides: Buffalo, New York

## NANCY HOLT

Born: Worcester, Massachusetts  
Resides: New York City

## JOAN JONAS

Born: New York City  
Resides: New York City

## ALLAN KAPROW

Born: Atlantic City, New Jersey, 1927  
Resides: Pasadena, California

## STANTON KAYE

Born: Los Angeles, 1943  
Resides: Venice, California

## JENNIFER KOTTER

Born: Santa Monica, California  
Resides: Del Mar, California

## FRED LONIDIER

Born: Lakeview, Oregon  
Resides: Del Mar, California

## DUANE MICHALS

Born: McKeesport, Pennsylvania, 1932  
Resides: New York City

## ROBERT MORRIS

Born: Kansas City, Missouri, 1931  
Resides: New York City

## FRANK MOURIS

Born: 1944  
Resides: New York City

## BRUCE NAUMAN

Born: Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1941  
Resides: Los Angeles

## PATRICIA PATTERSON

Born: Jersey City, New Jersey, 1941  
Resides: Del Mar, California

## YVONNE RAINER

Born: San Francisco, 1935  
Resides: New York City

## MARTHA ROSLER

Born: Brooklyn, New York  
Resides: Leucadia, California

## LUCAS SAMARAS

Born: Kastoria, Macedonia, Greece, 1936  
Resides: New York City

## DAVID SCHILPP

Born: San Diego, California, 1950  
Resides: El Cajon, California

## CAROLEE SCHNEEMANN

Born: 1939  
Resides: New York City

## ALLAN SEKULA

Born: Erie, Pennsylvania  
Resides: Del Mar, California

## ADELE SHAULES

Born: Long Beach, California, 1949  
Resides: San Diego, California

## ALAN SONFIST

Born: Bronx, New York, 1944  
Resides: New York City

## PHILIP STEINMETZ

Born: Des Plaines, Illinois, 1944  
Resides: Del Mar, California

## WILLIAM WEGMAN

Born: Holyoke, Massachusetts, 1943  
Resides: New York City

## MARTHA WILSON

Born: Philadelphia, Pa. 1947.  
Resides: New York City



This exhibition has been organized by five of the Helena Rubinstein Fellows in the Whitney Museum's Independent Study Program. They are: Nancy Drew, California State University, Long Beach; Andrew W. Kelly; Sarah Massey, California State University, Long Beach; Carrie Rickey, University of California, San Diego; Curtis Roberts, Swarthmore College. Other participants in the Whitney Museum's Independent Study Program this semester are: Judith Bernstein, University of California, Berkeley; Madeleine Burnside-Lukan, University of California, Santa Cruz; Jeanette Ingberman, Columbia University; Ann-Sargent Wooster, City University of New York, Graduate Center.

The Downtown Branch Museum is operated under the direction of David Hupert, Head of the Whitney Museum's Education Department. The Administrative Coordinator is Toba Tucker.

The Downtown Branch of the Whitney Museum of American Art, located in the Uris Building at 55 Water Street, is supported by the business community of lower Manhattan. The Independent Study Program is supported by the Helena Rubinstein Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. The museum is open Monday through Friday 11-3. Admission is free.

Eleanor Antin, Representative Painting, 1973 (Photo by Fred Lonidier)